

REMARKS

Claims 7, 17, 27, 37, 47, 57, 65 and 75 are now pending in the application. Applicant has amended claims 7, 17, 27, 37, 47, 57, 65 and 75 and cancelled claims 1-6, 8-16, 18-26, 28-36, 38-46, 48-56, 58-64, 66-74 and 76-78. The amendments to the claims contained herein are of equivalent scope as originally filed. Thus, the amendments are not narrowing amendments, and no new issues have been raised. While Applicant disagrees with the current rejections, Applicant has cancelled the rejected claims to expedite prosecution. Applicant reserves the right to pursue the cancelled claims as originally filed in one or more continuing applications. The Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the rejections in view of the amendments and remarks contained herein.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1-6, 9, 11-16, 18-26, 29, 31-36, 38-46, 49, 51-56, 58-64, 67, 69-74 and 76 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ambe et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 7,099,317) in view of Jain et al. (U.S. Pub. No. 2003/0079040).

Claims 8, 10, 28, 30, 48, 50, 66, and 68 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ambe, in view of Jain and further in view of Nozaki et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 6,950,431).

Claims 77 and 78 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ambe, in view of Jain and further in view of Brunner et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 5,982,775).

While Applicant disagrees with the current rejections, Applicant has cancelled claims 1-6, 8-16, 18-26, 28-36, 38-46, 48-56, 58-64, 66-74 and 76-78 to expedite prosecution. Applicant reserves the right to pursue the cancelled claims as originally filed in one or more continuing applications.

ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER

Applicant wishes to thank the Examiner for the allowance of claims 7, 17, 27, 37, 47, 57, 65 and 75. Minor amendments have been made to claims 7, 17, 27, 37, 47, 57, 65 and 75. The amendments to the claims contained herein are of equivalent scope as originally filed. Thus, the amendments are not narrowing amendments, and no new issues have been raised.

CONCLUSION

It is believed that all of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly addressed. For all of the reasons set forth above, Applicant submits that the application is in condition for allowance. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw all presently outstanding rejections.

If the Examiner believes that personal communication will allow any outstanding issues to be resolved, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (248) 641-1600.

Respectfully submitted,

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